

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
ENERGY FACILITY SITING BOARD**

IN RE: NARRAGANSETT ELECTRIC COMPANY NOTICE OF INTENT APPLICATION FOR THE L190 115 KV TRANSMISSION LINE ASSET CONDITION REFURBISHMENT PROJECT IN EAST GREENWICH, NORTH KINGSTOWN, EXETER, AN SOUTH KINGSTOWN, RHODE ISLAND – DOCKET NO. SB-2022-03

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to the provisions of Chapters 42-98-7 and 42-98-9.1 of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island, and sections 1.6(G) and 1.8(D) of its Rules of Practice and Procedure, the Energy Facility Siting Board (“Board”) will conduct **public hearings on Tuesday, August 9, 2022 at the East Greenwich High School (300 Avenger Drive, East Greenwich RI 02818) and on Wednesday, August 10, 2022 in the Robert Higgins Welcome Center at the University of Rhode Island (45 Upper College Road, Kingston RI 02881)**. Both hearings will begin at 6 PM.

At the hearings, the Board will hear public comment on Docket No. SB-2022-03 regarding the Narragansett Electric Company’s Notice of Intent Application for the proposed asset condition refurbishment of the L190 115 kV transmission line. Specifically, the Company is proposing to refurbish a 14-mile section of the existing L190 115 kV transmission line. The 14-mile section runs briefly through East Greenwich, continues through North Kingstown, crosses a corner of Exeter, and continues down through South Kingstown until it reaches the West Kingston substation. The Company states that the purpose of the Project is to address the asset conditions of the structures and conductors along the 14-mile section (originally installed in the 1960s), as well as to address the thermal overloads identified by ISO-NE in their Eastern Connecticut (ECT) 2029 Need Assessment. The Company proposes the following project components (all to be completed within the existing light of way for the L190 line): replacing 146 existing wood pole structures with weathering steel pole equivalents along 12.5 miles of the L190 line; reconductoring 200 feet of the L190 line; replacing existing wire with Optical Ground Wire (OPGW); and maintaining and upgrading access roads, signage, and grounding. Detailed images of the proposed Project route (including adjacent properties) can be found in “Siting Report – Volume II Figures,” available on the docket page at: <https://ripuc.ri.gov/Docket-SB-2022-03>. The Company argues that any impact the proposed refurbishment project may have on the natural and/or social environment will be negligible. Therefore, the Company requests the Board determine that the project does not constitute an alteration to a major energy facility and that it is not subject to the full EFSB permitting process.

Section 1.6(G) of the Rules of Practice and Procedure Rule provides that the Board shall “hold a public hearing in one or more of the cities or towns affected by an application.” After the public comment hearing, the Board shall “determine whether the project may result in a significant impact on the environment or the public health, safety and welfare and therefore shall be treated as an alteration,” per Section 1.6(H). The Board will conduct public comment hearings in East Greenwich and South Kingstown, and welcomes the participation of residents of all affected cities and towns.

The Notice of Intent Application is on file and available for public review at the Board office located within the Public Utilities Commission office building at 89 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, Rhode Island. It is also available online at: <https://ripuc.ri.gov/Docket-SB-2022-03>.

Individuals requesting interpreter services for the hearing impaired must notify the Coordinator at 89 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, 401-780-2173, at least 72 hours in advance of the public comment hearing.

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